AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 4, 7-8, 11, and 18-19, as set forth in the listing of claims below.

1-3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Currently Amended) A method for fault recovery in a computer system having a system processor, an input/output processor, and an input/output adaptor connected to the system processor and the input/output processor, the input/output adapter being configured to be dynamically switchable between being controlled by the system processor and being controlled by the input/output processor, the method for fault recovery comprising:

        detecting a ~~fault~~ failure or malfunction in the input/output processor; and

        switching the input/output adapter to control by the system processor if the input/output adapter is being controlled by the input/output processor when the ~~fault~~ failure or malfunction is detected.

5.   (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the input/output adapter is a PCI (Peripheral Component Interconnect) adapter.

6.   (Original) A method according to claim 5, wherein the input/output processor is a PCI-compatible processor.

7.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the computer system has a plurality of dynamically switchable input/output adapters, and each of the dynamically switchable input/output adapters being controlled by the input/output processor when the ~~fault~~ failure or malfunction is detected is switched to control by the system processor.

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8.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, further comprising:

detecting correction of the ~~fault~~ failure or malfunction in the input/output processor; and

switching the input/output adapter to control by the input/output processor when the correction of the ~~fault~~ failure or malfunction is detected, if it was previously switched to control by the system processor as a result of the ~~fault~~ failure or malfunction in the input/output processor.

9.   (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein the input/output adapter is a PCI (Peripheral Component Interconnect) adapter.

10.   (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the input/output processor is a PCI-compatible processor.

11.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein the computer system has a plurality of dynamically switchable input/output adapters, and each of the dynamically switchable input/output adapters being controlled by the system processor when the correction of the ~~fault~~ failure or malfunction is detected is switched to control by the input/output processor if it was previously switched to control by the system processor as a result of the ~~fault~~ failure or malfunction in the input/output processor.

12.   (Previously Presented) A method for optimizing processor utilization in a computer system having a system processor, an input/output processor, and an input/output adaptor connected to the system processor and the input/output processor, the input/output adapter being configured to be dynamically switchable between being controlled by the system processor and being controlled by the input/output processor, the method for optimizing utilization comprising:

determining computer system utilization; and

switching control of the input/output adapter from a first one of the system processor and the input/output processor to a second one of the system processor and the input/output processor, if it is determined that the first one of the processors is being over

utilized and that the second one of the processors has sufficient capacity that switching control of the input/output adapter will not adversely affect system throughput.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein switching control of the input/output adapter from the first one of the processors to the second one of the processors is further based on a determination that the over utilization of the first of the processors is likely to continue for at least a specified period of time.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13, wherein the steps of determining computer system utilization and switching control of the input/output adapter based on such determination are repeated at intervals substantially equal to the specified period of time.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the computer system has a plurality of dynamically switchable input/output adapters, and the steps of determining computer system utilization and switching control of the input/output adapter based on such determination are performed for each of the plurality of input/output adapters.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the input/output adapter is a PCI (Peripheral Component Interconnect) adapter.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 16, wherein the input/output processor is a PCI-compatible processor.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the input/output adapter, the input/output processor and the system processor are interconnected via a common bus.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein the input/output adapter, the input/output processor and the system processor are interconnected via a common bus.

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